

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for considering and initialing the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed February 25, 2008.

I. Status of Claims

Claims 1-26 are currently pending in the application. This Amendment amends claims 1, 12 and 15, adds new claims 23-26, and addresses each point of rejection raised by the Examiner.

The amended and new claim language finds support in the specification as originally filed. No new matter has been added. Regarding claim 15, the amendment was made solely for clarification purposes, and thus, no changes in scope were intended. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

II. Rejections of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-5, 7-16, and 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rodriguez (U.S. 2004/0008790) in view of Yamaguchi et al. (U.S. 2002/0154699).

Claims 6 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rodriguez (U.S. 2004/0008790) in view of Yamaguchi et al. (U.S. 2002/0154699) in further view of Matsunaga et al. (U.S. 2002/0176503).

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the Examiner's rejections in view of the above claim amendments. Applicant respectfully submits that neither

Rodriguez nor Yamaguchi disclose, teach, suggest, or render obvious the specific features of the recited claims.

In particular, starting with amended independent claim 1, the claim recites:

An apparatus for recording multimedia data comprising:

a receiving unit for receiving a compressed multimedia signal;

a decoder unit for decoding the multimedia signal into a data stream having a predetermined format;

a data compression unit for reducing a data amount of the data stream by a certain amount and encoding the reduced data stream;

a compression select unit for generating at least four control signals and selecting a compressibility of the data compression unit using one of the at least four control signals,

wherein the data compression unit reduces the data amount according to a compressibility selected by the compression select unit using a selected one or more of frame reduction, format conversion, and resolution reduction.

Applicant respectfully submits that neither Rodriguez nor Yamaguchi renders obvious the recited claim feature of a compression select unit for generating *at least four control signals* and selecting a compressibility of the data compression unit *using one of the at least four control signals*. Moreover, a thorough review of the Matsunaga reference reveals the same deficiencies as Rodriguez and Yamaguchi regarding the amended claim feature.

Thus, the combination of Rodriguez, Yamaguchi, and Matsunaga fails to teach each limitation of independent claim 1, or to even suggest each limitation. Nor would there be any apparent reason to combine Rodriguez, Yamaguchi, and Matsunaga.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is patentable over the applied art.

Independent claim 12 comprises subject matter similar to that of independent claim 1 and is therefore distinguished from Rodriguez, Yamaguchi, and Matsunaga for reasons similar to those given above. Dependent claims 2-11 and 13-22 are distinguished from the cited references for at least the reasons given above by virtue of their dependence on independent claims 1 and 12, respectively.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections of claims 1-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

III. New Claims

Applicant has added new claims 23-26. The new claim language finds support in the specification as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Applicant respectfully submits that the cited prior is silent regarding exemplary embodiments of the present invention wherein the compression selection unit generates a two-bit control signal, which determines the one or more compressibility options selected by the data compression unit. Additionally, Applicant has added claims further reciting embodiments of the present invention with respect to the at least four control signals for greater scope of coverage.

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

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IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is believed that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully Submitted,



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